GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1612
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2008
WELFARE SCHEMES FOR SPORTSPERSONS
Deshmukh Shri Subhash Sureshchandra

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme for the welfare of Indian sportspersons of National and International level;

(b) if so,the details of the welfare schemes formulated;and

(c) the total amount spent during the last three years for the welfare schemes/programmes of sportspersons of National and International level?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS(DR. M. S. GILL)

(a)to(c): The two schemes viz.,Scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons and Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons are already in existence for providing financial assistance to sportspersons.

Under the Scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons,assistance is provided to outstanding sportspersons living in indigent circumstances,who had brought glory to the country in sports. Financial assistance is provided in the form of monthly pension and lump sum grant for medical treatment to the sportspersons as well as their families.Assistance is also provided in cash or kind (sports equipments, kit etc.)to budding sportspersons,in their pursuit of achieving excellence in sports.

The Government has recently enhanced the financial assistance to sportspersons,living under indigent circumstances,under the scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons,as per details given below:

(i) Eligibility Ceiling for outstanding sportspersons in indigent circumstances revised from Rs.36,000 per annum to Rs.2.00 lakh per annum.

(ii) Assistance for fatal injury to sportsperson raised from Rs.1.00 lakh to Rs.5.00 lakh.

(iii) Assistance for sustaining injury other than a fatal injury enhanced from Rs.40,000 to Rs.2.00 lakh.

(iv) Pension for permanently incapacitated outstanding sportsperson increased from Rs.2500 per month to Rs.10,000 per month.

(v) Pension in other cases enhanced from Rs.2,000 per month to Rs.8,000 per month.

(vi) Assistance to families of indigent sportspersons increased from Rs.40,000 to Rs.2.00 lakh.

(vii) Assistance for medical treatment increased from Rs.40,000 to Rs.2.00 lakh.

(viii) Assistance to eminent coaches,referees and umpires enhanced from Rs.20,000 to Rs.50,000.

Under the Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons,the sportspersons,who have attained the age of 30 years and have retired from active sports and who have won Gold,Silver or Bronze medals in Olympic Games,World Cup/World Championships,Asian Games,Commonwealth Games and Paralympic Games are given life pension through Life Insurance Corporation India.The rates of pension under the Scheme have been revised w.e.f. 01.07.2008,as per details given below: -

	Pre-revised rates	Revised rates
(i) Medalists at the Olympic Games	RS.5000/-	10000/- p.m.

(ii) Gold medalists at the World Cups/World Championships in Olympics and Asian Games disciplines.	Rs.4000/- 8000/- p.m.
(iii) Silver and Bronze medalists of the World Cups/World Championships in Olympics and Asian Games disciplines	Rs.3500/- 7000/- p.m.
(iv) Gold medalists of the Asian/Commonwealth Games	Rs.3500/- 7000/- p.m.
(v) Silver and Bronze medalists of Asian/Commonwealth Games	Rs.3000/- 6000/- p.m.
(vi) Gold medalists of Paralympic Games	Rs.2500/- 5000/- p.m.
(vii) Silver medalists of Paralympic Games	Rs.2000/- 4000/- p.m.
(viii) Bronze medalists of Paralympic Games	Rs.1500/- 3000/- p.m.

At present 30 sportspersons are getting pension under the Scheme of National Welfare Fund and 476 sportspersons are getting pension under the scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons.

Payments of pension/financial assistance to the sportspersons under these Schemes are made through the funds maintained in the State Bank of Patiala,for which the Government makes contributions out of the budgetary allocations.